

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

I hereby direct General Fred C. Weyand to head an interagency fact-finding mission to the Republic of Vietnam. This mission is to accomplish the following:

- 3 Assure President Thieu that this Administration remains steadfast in its support of the efforts by the Republic of Vietnam to resist North Vietnamese aggression and that it will do everything possible to provide the material assistance necessary for the defense of the Republic.
- 1 — Assess the current military situation and probable North Vietnamese intentions during the current offensive.
- 2 — Determine what the Government of the Republic of Vietnam is now doing and intends to do in coping with this offensive and with its impact on both the military and civilian sectors.
- 4 Determining what the United States Government can do to bolster South Vietnamese military capabilities and to alleviate suffering among the civilian population.

Upon his return to Washington, General Weyand will submit to me a report on his findings and recommendations.